

Applicant : Ivan Hargro et al.  
Serial No. : 09/548,261  
Filed : April 12, 2000  
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Attorney's Docket No.: 03109-017002

### REMARKS

This is a Preliminary Amendment to a Continuing Prosecution Application filed pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.53(d). The Applicants now amend claims 22 and 25 and add new claims 37-48, in order to more clearly describe the invention. Support for the amendment is found in the specification and drawings of the application as originally filed and from the specification and drawings of the application from which priority is claimed (U.S. Ser. No. 09/137,278). No new matter is added.

This Preliminary Amendment also cancels Figure 7 and claims 28-36.

The Applicants appreciate the courtesy extended by the Examiner during the telephonic interview on May 3, 2001, in which the Examiner indicated that the amendments submitted above would distinguish the claims from the prior art of record.

Attached is a marked-up version of the changes being made by the current Preliminary Amendment.

The Applicants respectfully submit that all claims are in condition for allowance.

Please apply any charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 7, 2001

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**Version with markings to show changes made**

**In the claims:**

Claims 28-36 have been cancelled.

Claims 22 and 25 have been amended as follows:

22. (Amended) A chromatography column for accepting a sample module comprising:

a tubular member having an inlet end, an outlet end, and an inner surface;

first and second porous members disposed within said tubular member; and

a chromatography media disposed within said tubular member and [between] bounded by

said first and second porous members;

wherein said first porous member abuts said chromatography media and said first porous member is also in downwardly slidable contact with said inner surface of said tubular member and is spaced sufficiently from said inlet end to define a module receiving region for receiving a sample module entirely within said tubular member.

25. (Amended) A chromatography column for use with a sample module comprising:

a tubular member having an inlet end, an inner surface, and a module receiving region,

said module receiving region being bounded by said inlet end and by a porous member;

a chromatography media inside said tubular member, said chromatography media being bounded by said porous member;

wherein said porous member [is] abuts said chromatography media and said first porous member is also in downwardly slidable contact with said inner surface of said tubular member

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and is spaced sufficiently from said inlet end so that said module receiving region is deep enough to permit a sample module to be inserted completely into said receiving region.

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